

Introduction

The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) originally adopted Pet Food Labeling Guides in 1959, which was the same year that the AAFCO Pet Food Committee was formed. It was not until August 11, 1967, that the AAFCO Pet Food Model Regulations were adopted by the membership. Since that time, many changes have been made to this Model. As the industry has changed, along with marketing practices, it has been necessary to update the model regulations.

Purpose

This labeling guide has been developed to enable control officials, the pet food and specialty pet food industry, and other individuals to better understand and interpret the AAFCO Model Regulations for Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food. Over the years, these regulations have evolved.

This guide is intended to be used in conjunction with the AAFCO Model Bill, AAFCO Model Regulations, and the AAFCO Model Regulations for Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food. It is not meant to cover every state's regulations, but rather the Model Regulations for Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food and associated guidance documents as presented in the *AAFCO Official Publication*.

Recognition

The 2024 update to the AAFCO Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Guide was completed, thanks to the contributions of the following volunteers:

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To obtain a copy of the *AAFCO Official Publication* or to purchase additional copies of this manual, please visit the AAFCO website at [aafco.org](https://www.aafco.org).

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